

295-01-1995

28 July, 1995

REPORT OF MARBLED GODWIT

Location

Prince Gallitzin State Park - Northern Cambria County
East shore of Lake Glendale

Date

24 April, 1995

Amount

One

Other Observers

None

Equipment

8.5x44 Swift Audubon Binoculars

15-60 power Variable Bausch & Lomb Scope

Occurrence

It rained most of the day on 24 April, 1995. After the rain let-up, I drove to Prince Gallitzin State Park arriving at 3:00 PM. At approximately 3:30 PM while driving along the east shore line of Lake Glendale, I stopped to scan a group of ± 30 gulls that were feeding in a grassy area 25 ft from the shore line. At this point I was about 200 yards from the flock of gulls. While scanning the gulls, I found a quite different species feeding among them. I was using my 8.5x44 Binoculars. I slowly walked toward the birds and set up my 15-60x scope at approximately 80 yds.

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The bird was probing into the lawn the entire time I observed it (20-25 min.). The bird remained there feeding as I left the area.

The observed bird had a long upcurved bill that was approximately 50% orange & the outer part being dark colored. The bill was noticeably more upturned than bills on Hudsonian Godwits I have observed. The legs were blue in color. Very noticeable on this godwit was the alternately dark brown and light tan checkered back. The barred breast was light tan. While observing this godwit, it turned 360° numerous time to my satisfaction. At no time could I observe any white color on the upper tail coverts which I feel eliminated the Hudsonian Godwit.

Upon my return to my home in Ebensburg, I phoned Gloria Lamer, Cambria County Co-ordinator for PA. Birds and David Gobert. Mr Gobert visited the specific site at about 6:00 PM on 24 April, 1995. Gloria Lamer arrived at the site at 7:05 PM on the same day. After an extensive search, the Marbled Godwit was not located. Gloria Lamer, Georgette Syster and Alice Beatty returned to the area at 8:30 am the following morning, but the bird was not to be found again.

Previous Experience

I have been birding since May of 1984. My life list consists of 595 ABA Birds at present. I have travelled extensively since my retirement in June 1989

I have seen numerous Marbled Godwits since I located my first one at Gilchrist, TX on 19 April, 1990. The following year on 5 July, 1991, several were found at Shelby, MT. I have seen Marbled Godwits every winter in Florida from 1990 to the present.

As far as I can determine, this is the first County record for this species.

John Salvetti
519 E. Crawford St.
Ebensburg, PA. 15931
Ph 814-472-9298

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of

Species: Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*)

Date of Sighting: 24 April 1995 to 24 April 1995

Location: PRINCE GALLITZIN STATE PARK

County: CAMBRIA

Observer(s): John Salvetti



Date of Submission: 1995

Submitted by: John Salvetti

Written Description: YES Photo: NO Specimen: NO

Recording: NONE

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V			Abstain
					A	B	C	
F. Haas			X					
N. Pulcinella			X					
E. Kwater			X					
R. Ickes			X					
G. McWilliams			X					
P. Schwalbe			X					
S. Feldstein				X				
TOTALS			6	1				
DECISION			X					

Comments: Signature (Secretary): 

Date: 5-1-96